Department of Social and Health Services

Olympia, Washington

EAZ Manual

Revision # 1024

Category Income Special Types

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Summary

Adding clarifying information on when to close the TANF grant due to child support income when the TANF grant is in suspense.

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Worker Responsibilities - WAC 388-450-0050

1. Budgeting CJ income:

The start date for income is the month that the parent will actually receive the first paycheck. This first month's income is not counted towards the TANF grant.

EXAMPLE Parent starts work on the job site March 14th but does not receive the first paycheck until April 10th. The first month of income is April.

Budget CJ income as stated in WAC 388-450-0050 (2) - (6). See INCOME - Income Budgeting

Note:- Community Jobs pays the state or local minimum wage, whichever is higher.

NOTE: ACES automatically excludes a parent's anticipated CJ income for TANF-/-SFA and counts it for Basic Food i n the parent's first month of CJ participation.

- 2. **If CJ income alone makes the AU ineligible for TANF-/-SFA:** If there is no other income other than CJ wages and these wages alone put the AU over the maximum earned income limit for TANF-/-SFA under [WAC 388-478-0035](/manuals/WAC388 478 0035.shtml), then keep the case in suspense throughout the CJ enrollment period. See "When CJ income puts a case in suspense" below.
- 3. If the AU has income from CJ and another source:
 - 1. The countable income from the other source **alone** puts the AU over the appropriate payment standard, terminate cash benefits and end the parent's CJ component; or
 - 2. The AU would still be eligible without counting the CJ income, then suspend TANF/SFA and continue with the CJ component.
- 4. **When CJ income puts a case in suspense:** The Division of Child Support forwards the child support payments to the parent and these payments are budgeted against the Basic Food benefits as unearned income. The support payments are not retained support.
- 5. If CJ income causes a reduction in the grant but it is not in suspense:
 - 1. This may cause the AU's child support to be more than their TANF/SFA grant. The Division of Child Support will not forward the child support payments. If the AU's child support exceeds the cash grant for two months without counting the CJ income, ACES automatically closes the case.
 - 2. At the next 90-day review, <u>review the child support payments and decide</u> if the case should be terminated. See WAC 388--310-1300.
- 6. The transition from subsidized to unsubsidized "Career Jump" wages": <u>The Community Jobs contractor (CJC)</u> will inform you when the transition to the employer's payroll takes place. The income remains earned for Basic Food Assistance in all months.
- 7. When the CJC reports a change: If the CJC reports a change that affects a client's benefits, follow the change of circumstances rules in WAC 388-418-0020.